THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Out total 461 telephone exchanges in Bihar as on 31st March, 1991, proposal for expansion of 211 was approved.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The work of expansion of all the 211 telephone exchanges approved for expansion during 1991-92 has been completed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Telephone Exchanges at Veerpur, Sapaul and Saharsa have expanded and also interlinked with STD.

[*English*]

**Central Assistance for Minor Irrigation Projects**

6207. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance is being provided by the union Government for development of minor irrigation projects in Maharashtra'

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to give priority to minor irrigation projects in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) All Minor Irrigation Schemes are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments from their own resources. However, Central assistance is being provided to Maharashtra under various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector schemes such as Million Wells Scheme under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Integrated Rural development Programme, Assistance to small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production, drought Prone Areas Programme, Encouraging Use of Sprinkler/Drip System etc. , Integrated Development of Arid Zone Fruits and Strengthening of Ground Water Organisations if States and Union Territories.

(c) and (d). Details of Eight Five year Plan are yet to be finalised. However, due priority would be given to Minor Irrigation Schemes in the Eighth Plan.

**Transformers for Group housing societies Delhi**

6208. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Group Housing societies in Trans-Yamuna area have not been provided with transformers for which advance payment has been paid by them to Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to install the transformers in these Societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (c). According to DESU the work of electrification, including installation of distribution transformers at the Group Housing Societies in Trans-Yamuna area, for which advance payments have